

Dan Storck

Mount Vernon District Supervisor Fairfax County Board of Supervisors 2511 Parkers Lane Mount Vernon, VA 22306



Telephone: (703) 780-7518 E-mail: mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov

Joint Board Matter with Supervisor Storck, Chairman McKay, and Supervisor Gross

March 23, 2021

Recognizing March 25, 2021 as Greek Independence Day

On March 25th, the Greek American community celebrates and pays tribute to the many brave men and women that stood-up to overcome tyranny, sacrificing their lives in the Greek War of Independence, a battle for freedom from oppression, slavery and subjugation. These forebears bravely fought to liberate Greece after four long centuries of occupation. This year marks the bicentennial of Greek Independence Day which was turning point for the modern Greek state, the Republic of Greece: Hellas.

Greece has given the west and America the very foundations of democracy, government, and jurisprudence. Our English language, modern medicine, mathematics, science, architecture, entertainment, and sports stem from Greece. At the beginning of the 20th century, Greek immigrants transitioned from working on the railroads, mines, factories and mills into building small retail businesses: shoeshine stands, grocery stores and especially in the food service industry with restaurants, diners, coffee shops and candy kitchens. These small businesses served as a stable economic base for Greek Americans who soon established churches, cultural centers and communities throughout America. In 1919, 1 out of every 3 restaurants in Chicago was operated by Greek Americans. Today, the progeny of those heroic immigrants with the dream of better lives for their families and giving back to their adopted country have achieved much. They continue to enrich the fabric of our nation, state and Fairfax County through their dedication, integrity, work ethic and commitment. We honor their legacy and example.

Mr. Chairman, without objection, I ask that we recognize March 25, 2021 as Greek Independence Day in Fairfax County and that a proclamation be signed by the Chairman, myself, and Supervisor Gross and be presented out of the Board room to the National Hellenic Society.